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9 March 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Wayne Jackson

On 1 March, the Burmese Government agreed to extend the "cease-fire" to 15 March for the immediate area surrounding the rally points where the ChiNat repatriates are collecting for evacuation to Thailand, and a narrow strip of territory on each side of the roads being used for this purpose. The "cease-fire" has been extended to 31 March for a restricted area adjacent to northern Thailand. The rally points are located at towns well east of the Salween River in Kengtung State, eastern Burma.

Recent reports concerning a Burmese Army offensive against the ChiNats indicate that Burmese military action is limited to a probing and holding action, because of the extension of the "cease-fire," and is located west of the area in which the evacuation operation is being conducted.

The Burmese War Office has stated that the Government of Burma will honor the "cease-fire" commitment.

The evacuation of Chinese Nationalist troops should continue but their degree of cooperation may decrease as a result of the Burmese action. It is probable that the "offensive" was launched more from a Government of Burma desire to placate opposition criticism than from expectation of a real military success against the Chinese Nationalists.

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